

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08687 170555 Z

10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 086114

R 170515 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1786

INFO DAO SAIGON

COMUSSAG

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMCONSUL CAN THO

S E C R E T SAIGON 8687

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: AIRSTRIKE COORDINATION

REF: CAN THO 317 (NOTAL)

1. DURING CALL OF MAJOR GENERAL COOKSEY ON MILITARY REGION IV COMMANDER NGHI, REPORTED REFTEL, SUBJECT OF DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN ARVN AND US AIRCRAFT CARRYING OUT AIR STRIKES IN CAMBODIA NEAR SVN BORDER WAS RAISED BY GENERAL NGHI. MAJOR GENERAL COOKSEY CORRECTLY REAFFIRMED TO GENERAL NGHI THAT ANY CHANGE IN CURRENT PROCEDURES WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT WITH EMBASSY SAIGON.

2. TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE COORDINATION OF AIRSTRIKES IN CAMBODIA WITHIN THE TERMS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN DETERMINED:

A) THE HEADQUARTERS CONCERNED (IN THIS CASE GENERAL NGHI' S HEADQUARTERS) FORWARDS TARGET INFORMATION AND AIR STRIKE REQUESTS THROUGH VIETNAMESE CHANNELS TO JGS IN SAIGON;

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08687 170555 Z

B) JGS CONSIDERS REQUEST AND IF APPROVED PASSES IT TO USDAO;

C) USDAO THEN TRANSMITS APPROVED REQUEST TO USSAG
FOR COORDINATION WITH GKR THRU AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH AND
FOR FINAL DECISION.

3. THIS PROCEDURE APPLIES TO ALL AIRSTRIKE COORDINATION, INCLUDING
B-52' S AND F-111' S. CONGEN PERSONNEL SHOULD PLAY NO PART IN THE
PROCESS. THEY SHOULD, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO ALERT EMBASSY AND
DAO TO UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS WHICH MAY COME TO THEIR ATTENTION.

4. REGARDING F-111 BEACON ON SOUTH VIETNAMESE SIDE OF CAMBODIAN
BORDER NEAR HONG NGU, WE REGARD THIS AS PASSIVE LOCATOR DEVICE
AND THUS WITHIN CEASEFIRE RULES. HOWEVER, SAME WOULD NOT REPEAT
NOT APPLY TO DIRECT CONTACT BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY WITH US
AIRCRAFT ON CAMBODIAN SIDE OF THE BORDER, AS SUGGESTED PARA 8
OF REFTEL. AS REFTEL POINTS OUT, THIS WOULD BORDER ON JOINT
OPERATIONS WITH USAF IN CAMBODIA AND WOULD IN OUR VIEW
CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE CEASEFIRE.

5. OUR PRINCIPAL CONCERN IN THIS MATTER IS TO FURTHER CLOSE AND
EFFECTIVE COORDINATION WHILE AVOIDING ANY VIOLATION OF THE PARIS
AGREEMENT OF JANUARY 27 EITHER BY THE U. S. OR BY THE GVN. IN
THIS CONNECTION WE ARE CONCERNED THAT CONSULATE GENERAL AND
EMBASSY PERSONNEL NOT REPEAT NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN MILITARY
ADVICE OR IN MILITARY PLANNING WHICH WOULD, OF COURSE, BE
VIOLATION OF THE CEASEFIRE.

6. FOR BIEN HOA AND NHA TRANG: ALTHOUGH MILITARY REGIONS
II AND III HAVE NOT BECOME INVOLVED IN COORDINATION OF AIR STRIKES
IN CAMBODIA NEAR VIETNAMESE BORDER, SHOULD THIS HAPPEN YOU
SHOULD BE GUIDED BY FOREGOING.

WHITEHOUSE

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON08687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730546/aaaajhvj.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 73 CAN THO 317 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Nov-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980217
Subject: AIRSTRIKE COORDINATION
TAGS: MOPS
To: BIEN HOA
CAN THO
CINCPAC
COMUSSAG
DAO SAIGON
NHA TRANG
PHNOM PENH

SECSTATE WASHDC

SS

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005